

RESOLUTION NO. R-\_\_\_\_-13

Whereas, the 1965 Voting Rights Act (VRA) is the most effective Civil Rights legislation ever enacted by the United States Congress.

Whereas, VRA has made it possible for great changes in the United States of America in politics and other walks of life.

Whereas, VRA is a symbol for commitment to voting rights in this country and across the world.

Whereas, VRA was signed by President Lyndon Johnson on August 6, 1965 in a special ceremony at the White House.

Whereas, voting rights are under great attack in various state legislature across the country.

Whereas, the U. S. Supreme Court has gutted the Voting Rights Act by deactivating Section 5, the very heart of the Act.

Whereas, voting is the right that ultimately protects all other rights.

Whereas, the nation must recommit to the spirit of expanding voting rights as originally embodied in the VRA.

Whereas, making August 6<sup>th</sup> National Voting Rights Day will recognize the spirit of voting in a special way and help expand voting rights.

Now Therefore, the City of Gadsden hereby declares its strong support for making August 6<sup>th</sup> National Voting Rights Day.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GADSDEN, ALABAMA, that the Mayor is authorized and the City of Gadsden hereby declares August 6<sup>th</sup> as National Voting Rights Day in 2013 and succeeding years.

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing was duly adopted by the City Council of Gadsden, Alabama, at a meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_.

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Iva Nelson, City Clerk